

BRIDLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1968

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. P. D. H. Chapman
B.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab)

SURVEYOR AND SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G. Anderson
C.E.I.B.



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES
9 WESTGATE,
BRIDLINGTON

BRIDLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor G. Suter (deceased 16th July 1968)

Councillor T. Woodhouse, J.P. (w.e.f. 25th October 1968)

Members of the Committee

Councillors:-

J. Brown	M. E. Thompson
C. Leeson	F. S. Watson
H. E. Shipley	Miss E. P. Wilson
H. Smith	<u>T. Woodhouse, J.P.</u>
G. Suter	H. C. Mowthorpe
	(from 18th October 1968)

Officials

Clerk to the Council:

R. A. Lakin

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. P. D. H. Chapman
B.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Cantab)

Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector:

G. Anderson
C.S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

H. Fell
Cert. S.I.B.

A. M. Barker
M.A.P.H.I.

BRIDLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Midland Bank Chambers,
9 Westgate,
BRIDLINGTON.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bridlington Rural District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

Like renowned singers who, after a supposedly final concert reappear on the platform, so I reappear to submit one more Annual Report. Not I hasten to add in order to make more money, but to complete the work during 1968 for which I have been paid already.

General Statistics

Area of District (acres)	66,903
Population of Area (Mid year estimated from the Registrar-General's figures)	8,930
Population of Area (Previous year)	8,840
Total Number of Rated Properties in the District	4,334
Private Dwellings including agricultural	3,872
Shops with private dwellings	72
Shops without private dwellings	57
Hotels and boarding houses	4
Public houses	23
Holiday camps and Caravan Sites	31
Miscellaneous hereditaments other than classified above . .	275
Rateable Value 1968/69	£296,739
Product of Penny Rate at 31st March 1968	£ 1,150

Vital Statistics

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Legitimate	45	48	93	a percentage of 90.29 total births
Illegitimate	6	4	10	a percentage of 9.71 total births (Previous year 5.04)
	<u>51</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>103</u>	

Stillbirths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>

Stillbirth rate per 1000 births Bridlington Rural District . . .	19.41
Stillbirth rate for England, Wales per 1000 births	14.00
Birth rate per 1000 of estimated resident population	13.49
Rate per thousand (Total live and stillbirths)	13.74
(These rates are adjusted by a comparability factor of 1.17)	
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 living population . .	16.90

Deaths

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
68	41	109

Of the 109 deceased, 51 attained to 75 years or over, a percentage of 45.8 of total deaths. There was one centenarian.

Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population 10.49
(Comparability factor 0.86)

Death rate per 1000 population England and Wales. 11.9

There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

Infant Mortality

Death of infants under 1 year of age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	1	1

Infantile death rate per 1000 live births 19.41

Perinatal mortality (Deaths under 1 week plus stillbirths) 38.8

Death of infants under 4 weeks of age 2 = 19.41
per 1000 births

Death of infants under 1 week of age 1 = 9.7 per
1000 births

Infantile death rate per 1000 live births for England and Wales 18.

Death of infants under 4 weeks of age. England and Wales 12.3

Death of infants under 1 week of age. England and Wales 10.5

Perinatal mortality. England and Wales 25.

Zymotic Diseases

There were no deaths from Zymotic Diseases, i.e. Smallpox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).

A tabulated record of the causes of death will be found at the end of this report.

Infectious Diseases

Diseases notified during the year:

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Sanatorium	Deaths
Measles	51	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Dysentery	2	1	-
Total	54	1	-

Case rate per 1000 population

Measles 5.71 Scarlet Fever 0.11

Dysentery 0.22

Tuberculosis:

Number of cases on the register at 31st December 1968:-

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	39	24	63
Non Pulmonary	12	18	30
New cases notified	None	None	None
Cases removed from register	-	None	

Immunisation and Vaccination Statistics at 31st December 1968.

Smallpox	Under 1 yr.	Years		Others under 15 yrs.	Total	Re-vaccinations
		1 - 2	2 - 4			
No. of children vaccinated	13	25	12	6	56	3

No. of children immunised against	under 5 years	5 to 15 years	Total	Boosters
Diphtheria	66	2	68	81
Whooping Cough	66	2	68	28
Tetanus	66	2	68	85

Public Health Laboratory Service

Bacteriological examination of samples of water and milk continues to be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory in Hull under the direction of Dr. J. H. McCoy.

The City Analyst, Hull, has been called upon to assist in the Chemical Analysis of sewage and other effluents. Random sampling of effluents is carried out by the Public Health Department as a routine at all Sewage Disposal Works.

Housing

The housing survey continues in operation and the records have been kept up to date. In accordance with the policy of the Council those houses capable of improvement are provided with the five essential amenities through the agency of Standard and Discretionary grants. The five essential amenities are:-

(1) Bath or shower: (2) Wash hand basin: (3) hot water system: (4) water closet: (5) Food store.

During the year 15 Discretionary Grants and 9 Standard Grants were arranged. Twelve Council Houses in Reighton, Speeton and Hunmanby were improved with the aid of grants. There were no properties demolished during 1968.

Sewage Disposal

The policy of the Rural District Council has been to disallow untreated sewage flowing into the sea and fouling the foreshore and this policy is pursued both for reasons of amenity and of public health.

The hazard to health of untreated sewage is not easy to establish. However 6 cases all fatal, of primary meningo-encephalitis in Australia have been traced to swimming in sewage contaminated sea water.

List of Works

- Works completed - 1954 Hunmanby: Construction of storm water tanks and storm water overflows. Included in this contract were sludge drying beds to be constructed at the Sewage Disposal Works.
- 1956 Haisthorpe: Work to provide a separate system of sewers and a Sewage Disposal Works.
- 1960 Hunmanby: Separate system of sewers established. Sewage Disposal Works enlarged to approximately twice the capacity. The work included provision of flow recorder, settlement tanks, aeration filters and humus tanks. A pumping station was installed at the Sewage Disposal Works. Total Hunmanby £68,024.
- 1965 Flamborough: Extensions to sewer in Carter Lane to South Sea Road.
- 1968 The most notable event of the year has been the completion of the Scheme for the sewerage of the southern region of the Rural District, comprising the villages of Ulrome, Skipsea, Lissett, Barmston and a number of holiday camps.

To carry out the scheme, five major and two minor pumping stations were necessary. Nearly five miles of sewers had to be laid plus 3.9 miles of house connections. One hundred manholes have been built. At the heart of the scheme are the sewage disposal works situated to the north west of Skipsea. These are the most modern design embodying many novel features and are fully automated. The cost was £250,000 and it is the most ambitious scheme ever undertaken by the Rural District Council. The works were officially opened by the Chairman of the East Riding County Council, The Right Hon. Earl of Halifax, H.M.L. on 3rd July 1968. Full details of this interesting project are appended to the Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. Anderson, who also was nominated Clerk of Works.

- Works planned:
- Reighton and Speeton: Provision of a separate system of sewers, clean and foul, and a new Sewage Disposal Works are planned. The existing system is inadequate.
- Muston, Folkton and Flixton: A scheme on the separate system is planned.
- Thring, Octon, Wold Newton, Burton Fleming and Rudston: A scheme for the whole area is planned.
- Flamborough: Survey is going on now.

Refuse Collection

A weekly collection of refuse continues with satisfaction both to the Public Health Department and to those living in the Rural District. This refuse collection has never failed to live up to its designation of weekly, even during the holiday season when the population of the District is increased enormously. There are 121 outlying premises for which a weekly collection is inadvisable owing to excessive cost.



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Refuse Disposal

This continues to be by tipping. This is recognised as being unhygienic and becomes more difficult to carry out every year, as the bulk of refuse increases and the cost of labour and sealing materials goes up. Conveniently sited holes in the ground are being used up. A composting system is the answer to these problems. Unfortunately the economic situation of the country is said to rule this out for the present.

Food and Meat

Meat inspection is total. There are two private licensed slaughterhouses. A satisfactory standard of hygiene is maintained.

Water Supplies - Fluoridation

The Secretary of State hopes that in response to his request local health authorities who have not already done so will adopt this measure at the earliest possible date.

Sir George Godber has circulated a list of 46 scientific papers on this subject to help Medical Officers of Health to answer any points which may arise during discussions at County Halls. Finally the World Health Organisation will shortly be issuing a technical monograph on fluorides and health.

It would seem that those who still oppose this measure are in need not of more scientific evidence but rather of treatment on the psychiatrist couch. The Bridlington Rural District Council passed a resolution in favour of fluoridation in 1967.

Population of U.K.

The latest estimate by Mr. Switzer of the Department of Land Economy of Cambridge University is that by the year 2000 the population would reach 70,000,000, equivalent to the adding to the nation the city of York every 10 weeks. The effort of the East Riding County Council, during the First Quarter of 1969, to deal with this menace was as follows:-

Attendances at birth control clinics:-

New PatientsFirst Visits

(each patient is recorded as such when NEW and on first visits each year thereafter)

182

810

Little wonder that Sir George Godber (Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security) has reminded local authorities that it was now within their power to provide birth control facilities but that few as yet had done so on the scale needed.

The Governments have not set a good example to Local Authorities. By admitting immigrants of exceptionally high fertility to the U.K., they have aggravated the population problem.

Though, in truth, most generous, Yorkshire folk are reputed to be hard headed over money and, quite rightly, do not waste it. These figures should interest them:-

Effective contraception costs about £4 per year per person.

An abortion costs about £25 per case per year.

Full maternity service costs £177 per year per case.

Surely it is to everyone's advantage that no unwanted babies should be conceived. During 1968 the Abortion Act has been in force. I welcome the Act and so do those who consider that in an overpopulated island it is well that no unwanted babies should be born. Apart from successful adoption, there are no substitutes for loving parents; and so the lot of the unwanted child is a sad one.

Unfortunately certain disagreeable developments have occurred in the operation of this Act, notably in connection with private abortion clinics. If all gynaecologists working for the National Health Service did their share in this work, there would be no problem, but there is a sizeable minority who have conscientious objections to performing this operation.

It would be reasonable in these circumstances for such gynaecologists to accept a reduction in their salaries, the money saved to be used to pay for a larger number of gynaecologist.

A sacrifice in salary for conscientious scruples would doubtless attract increased merit and would prove the firmness of their beliefs and should be welcomed therefore.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

P. D. H. CHAPMAN

Medical Officer of Health.

17th November 1969

Causes of death at different periods of life during 1968

[illegible]

Cause of death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
Circulatory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anemia	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Digestive System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Injuries	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unfavourable Conditions	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Causes	M	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	M	68	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	5	11	18	30
	F	41	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	7	12	17

BRIDLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Midland Bank Chambers,
9 Westgate,
Bridlington.

ANNUAL REPORT 1968

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bridlington Rural District Council.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I enclose my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 1968.

General:

Summary of visits made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1968.

Summary:

Housing Acts	508
Public Health	600
Food Premises	200
Meat and Slaughterhouse Inspection	315
Factories	43
Rodent Control	250
Public Cleansing	320
Council House Maintenance	650
Camps and Caravan Sites	300
Sewage Works and Drainage Inspection	700
Water Supplies	55
Milk Legislation	28
Petroleum Licences	50

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Maintenance

Maintenance of sewage disposal works has continued to give satisfactory results where plants are not operating beyond design capacity. Isolated instances of poor effluent samples have been caused once more by the mischievous attention of children. Overburdened sewage disposal plant cannot be expected to produce satisfactory effluents and have not done so.

Skipssea Area Sewage Disposal Works

This scheme was completed during the year. Some difficulties were experienced with mechanical plant initially but were capable of easy rectification.

The standard of maintenance at this sewage disposal works and in connection with pumping stations which form part of the overall scheme is good. In providing adequate staff to allow a high standard of maintenance the Council have recognised a most important factor in sustaining the equipment and sewers provided at such high cost.

Reighton Sewage Disposal Works

These works are greatly overloaded and completely inadequate for the task they have to perform.

Proposals for their replacement and the re-severing of the Village have been agreed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Flamborough

Sewers were cleansed in the village to secure free flow of sewage through to Hartendale gutter.

During the summer months surcharge on sections of the sewers was experienced. This occurred during periods of heavy rainfall and high seasonal influx of holiday visitors. Comparable weather conditions outside holiday periods did not produce surcharge.

Apart from normal growth of building most of the holiday caravan sites in the village are now connected to main drainage and the Council's sewers. It is estimated that the caravan sites cater for an additional population in excess of 4,000 persons so that a population of some three times the normal static population is required to be catered for.

The discharge of volumes of crude sewage to the sea by means of an open ditch in a much frequented holiday area cannot be regarded as satisfactory, and the Council have instructed their consulting civil engineers to prepare a scheme to sewer Flamborough.

Rudston Sewage Disposal Works

Limitations on maintenance are imposed by the inadequate access provided at this sewage disposal works. A fluctuating quality of effluent samples is experienced at this sewage disposal works.

Bempton Sewage Disposal Works

A much higher standard of maintenance has been possible in view of the reduced volume of sewage flow to the sewage disposal works since the Bempton R.A.F. Camp closed.

In general it can be said that progress is being made but much remains to be done in the smaller centres of population. The sophistication of the Skipsea Sewage Disposal Works is more than counterbalanced by the Chadwick area conditions which are experienced in other places in the District.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Few complaints were received and this fact reflects great credit on the refuse collectors who operate a tight schedule. Vehicle failure or sickness of crew members has an immediate disrupting effect. A weekly collection of refuse has been maintained throughout the defined collection area. The use of paper sacks as refuse containers was extended to more Council houses.

Vehicles:

A new large capacity Shelvoke & Drewry Pakamatic vehicle was brought into service in the early months of the year as replacement to a smaller Fore & Aft tipping vehicle.

Some loss of time due to vehicle failure was experienced. Within the existing framework of the service it has not been possible to provide adequate maintenance. Viewed in relation to maintenance required and received, the vehicles have given remarkably good service.

Disposal of Refuse:

Tips at Flamborough and Bempton are used for the disposal of refuse. The Bempton tip is not used exclusively by this Council. Tradesmen and Contractors from a widespread area use the tips and controlled conditions are impossible.

Sewage sludge collected by the cesspool emptier is disposed of at these open sites.

FOOD AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are two licensed private slaughterhouses in the district producing a consistently high standard of meat. Inspection of animals slaughtered is 100%.

The table below gives the number of animals slaughtered with comparative figures from 1961.

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Bovine	249	236	306	279	245	243	254	226
Calves	1	22	39	2	-	-	-	3
Sheep & Lambs	808	746	776	766	695	665	781	780
Pigs	220	173	324	289	372	302	288	290
	<u>1278</u>	<u>1177</u>	<u>1445</u>	<u>1336</u>	<u>1316</u>	<u>1210</u>	<u>1323</u>	<u>1299</u>

Condemned Meat:

Meat unfit for human consumption is surrendered to and disposed of by the Council.

<u>Bovine:</u>	Head - 30 lbs. - Cysticercus Bovis Livers - 20 lbs. - Distomatosis, multiple abscesses, cirrhosis.
<u>Sheep:</u>	Lungs, liver, heart, spleen - 2 lbs. - pneumonia and pericarditis. Carcase - 124 lbs. - Generalised oedema.
<u>Pig:</u>	Liver - 4 lbs. - Milk spots caused by larvae of Ascaris lumbricoides. Carcase - 208 lbs. - Generalised oedema. Heart - $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. - Pericarditis. Head - 40 lbs. - Tuberculosis. Hocks - 21 lbs. - Arthritis. Kidney - $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. - Hydatid cysts.

MILKBrucellosis:

Notification was received from the Medical Officer of Health, East Kilbride, of a case of brucellosis, the history of which made the source of infection readily identifiable with the area.

Arrangements were made for processing the milk until identification and removal of the animal affected from the herd.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Complaints of public health nuisance were few and were dealt with as they arose. This may be due largely to the high proportion of owner occupied property in the area.

Itinerant Van Dwellers

The first incident in the area of difficulties with Irish tinkers arose when some 10 caravans were taken on to Ministry of Defence land adjoining Carnaby airfield. Conditions on their departure were deplorable. Both civilian and service authority was largely ineffective in securing the rapid removal of these persons whose main characteristic was a determination to 'stay put'. It is difficult to imagine that the individual trespasser would prove as difficult to remove!

The action of seeking to remove these people is doubtless contrary to the intent of recent legislation. The efficacy of any legislation is dependent in some measure on the willingness of the populace to accept its discipline; in this present context it would appear there is neither willingness nor acceptance. The occupation followed by these people requires the covering of a wide area and considerable mobility. It is doubtful if more hygienic conditions would be found on static sites occupied by them even if the sites were provided by local authorities. To be free is one thing, but, these people must realise they must comply with basic standards of cleanliness and hygiene if they wish to be accepted by communities other than their own.

It was made clear at Carnaby that to be made welcome itinerants would have to clean themselves up, adjust their way of life not to give offence to others by dirty and filthy habits.

HOUSING

The pattern of previous years continues to be maintained with use of Grant legislation forming an important part in the general improvement of dwellings.

The sub-standard cottages on the coastal fringes of the area lacking sanitary amenities find a ready market with persons from the industrial south and west of the County, who seem to be prepared to spend considerable sums of money to bring them to a proper standard. In this way properties are removed from the necessity of action by the Council with mutual advantage to all parties.

STAFF

The Department has insufficient staff.

The Department is responsible for two major technical skills, public health work and construction in both private and public sectors. There are many other duties evolve from these responsibilities.

The volume of paper work arising is considerable and is beyond the capacity of one person to deal with.

Technical officers are overtaken by the plethora of paper and become involved in matters of minor technical importance and basic clerical work.

Yours faithfully,



G. Anderson.
Surveyor and Senior
Public Health Inspector.

17th November, 1969

